GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2195
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
MODERNISATION OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise Food Processing Industries in the country; and

(b) if so, the incentives proposed to various States and private entrepreneurs for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries under itsPlan Schemes extends financial assistance for setting up and development of food processing industries including modernization of the units. Such assistance is given to Non-Governmental Organizations, Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings,Private Industries, Human Resource Development and Research & Development Organizations, etc. The assistance extended is project oriented and not state or region specific. Besides the scheme of financial assistance, the Ministry has taken a number of initiatives to promote this sector. In the recent Budget central excise on processed fruits and vegetables have been brought down to 0% from the existing level of 16%. In foreign direct investment, most of the sectors in the food processing has been brought under the automatic route. The Ministry has also finalized work on a Draft National Food Processing Policy which envisages creation of enabling environment, development of adequate infrastructure, development of Research & Development facilities, networking of laboratories etc. These facilities would encourage setting up of units in the processed food sector both by private parties and by State Governments in public sector or joint sector or assisted sector.